

decisions to guaranty loans. Under the bill, health information technology loans will be guaranteed 90 percent by the SBA, a factor that will encourage robust lender participation in the program.

Health IT has the potential to reduce costs and medical errors, while encouraging greater efficiency. It will be an essential component of our efforts to reform health care.

However, to use health IT most effectively, we must first address three barriers to its widespread adoption: technical standards and interoperability, workforce training, and the realignment of financial incentives.

This bill can help to address a part of the third, which involves the cost of implementation.

I have long believed that we should continue to look at ways that we can create more incentives for small practice doctors to adopt health information technology. It's important to note that 80 percent of all outpatient visits take place in practices with 10 or fewer doctors. It is essential that these practices receive the assistance they need in order to be able to implement health IT.

The larger barrier to health IT adoption is that its associated costs and benefits are not realized equally between health care providers and payors. The financial benefit of health IT accrues to the payor—the insurer—while providers are the parties most likely to bear the cost.

The challenges of implementing health IT vary greatly from large health systems to smaller medical practices. Small medical practices, which may have to incur initial costs of up to \$200,000—around \$40,000 per physician—for a system, may see little, if any, financial benefit from its applications. It's no wonder health IT has a deployment rate of less than 20 percent in these offices.

I have been working with the Education and Labor Committee and leadership to address this issue in health care reform moving forward.

H.R. 3854 will provide financial assistance to these small practices, and I wholeheartedly support this legislation.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEAS OF THE THIRD ANNUAL BLOOD MANAGEMENT AWARENESS WEEK

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2009

Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark the beginning of the third annual Blood Management Awareness Week. November 2nd through November 6th has been designated as Blood Management Awareness Week by the Society for the Advancement of Blood Management. This event is dedicated to educating patients and healthcare workers about blood management and blood issues.

Blood management is the appropriate provision and use of blood and its components and derivatives, and strategies to reduce or avoid the need for a blood transfusion. Optimal patient blood management employs technology and techniques to decrease blood loss and to enhance blood cell production. It reduces risks

and costs associated with blood transfusion through transfusion-free medical and surgical techniques.

I would also like to recognize the important work of Englewood Hospital and Medical Center, which is located in my congressional district, to further the goals and ideals of this important event. The Hospital's Institute for Patient Blood Management and Bloodless Medicine and Surgery is a world-renowned leader in patient blood management. I commend the physicians of the Institute for their commitment to improving patient outcomes and educating the medical community about best practices in blood management.

RECOGNIZING FAYE SCHNEIDEWIND FOR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO JERRY'S DRIVE-IN

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2009

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Faye Schneidewind upon the occasion of her 50th year of loyal service to Jerry's Drive-In, a Pensacola, Florida, landmark. Miss Faye is an intimate part of the fabric of our northwest Florida community, and I am proud to recognize her on this achievement.

Faye Schneidewind grew up in Pensacola and still lives only a few blocks from Jerry's. The 80-year-old great-grandmother started working as a waitress at the diner when she was just 21. After a few years away, Miss Faye returned to Jerry's on November 5, 1959, her sister's birthday. She has been serving the customers at Jerry's ever since. Miss Faye knows just about everyone who walks through the doors at Jerry's, and always provides a warm smile, a hot meal, and good conversation. She is as much a part of the history of Jerry's as memorabilia stretching across its walls.

Jerry's Drive-In is a truly family restaurant. Originally named Jerry's Barbeque, Jerry's Drive-In was opened by Jerry Glass in 1939. Raymond "Grandpa" Wessel purchased the restaurant in the early 1950's with his son Bill. The Wessels lived in an apartment above the restaurant. Even after the restaurant was sold, Mr. Wessel continued to maintain his residence above Jerry's. Robert, Jimmy, and Pam Halstead bought Jerry's in 1997 and have continued its tradition of great food and great service.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am honored to recognize Faye Schneidewind on 50 years of dedicated service to Jerry's Drive-In. She is and always will be an invaluable part of our Pensacola heritage. My wife Vicki and I wish Miss Faye, her daughter, her two granddaughters, her nine grandchildren, and her entire extended family at Jerry's all the best for continued success.

RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY SUTTON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 783 to recognize Hispanic Heritage Month. This resolution celebrates the vast contributions that Hispanic-Americans have made to the history, values and culture of our great nation.

Since the arrival of the earliest Spanish settlers more than 400 years ago, millions of Hispanic men and women have come to the U.S. from Europe, Central and South America, Puerto Rico and Cuba in search of freedom, peace and opportunity.

Their commitment to these American principles has contributed immensely to the prosperity and cultural development of our nation.

With a population totaling 47.5 million, Hispanics represent the fastest-growing ethnic group in America.

According to a 2000 U.S. Census Bureau report, three of the top 10 counties with the highest Hispanic population in the country lie at least partly within Ohio's 13th District.

More than 24,000 Hispanics and Latinos reside in my district, representing nearly 4 percent of the population. In the city of Lorain, Hispanics make up 20 percent of the population.

And, like all Americans today, Latinos remain focused on the economy and its recovery.

Hispanic-Americans in my district are supported by community centered organizations, such as El Centro de Servicios Sociales.

Located in the City of Lorain, El Centro is a Hispanic-Latino non-profit advocacy organization. It works to provide social, educational, cultural and development services that are essential to members of our communities.

Our country's success rests on the longstanding ideal that anyone—regardless of ethnicity, gender, race or religion—can achieve the American dream.

With Hispanic culture rooted deeply in my district, I am proud to celebrate the contributions and heritage of our country's Hispanic community. And, it is my honor to serve Hispanic Americans as a member of Congress.

RECOGNIZING ARTE MORENO, RECIPIENT OF THE 2009 GUIDING LIGHT PHILANTHROPY AWARD

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2009

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Arte Moreno, who has been honored by the Tempe Community Council with this year's Guiding Light Philanthropy Award. The Tempe Community Council seeks to recognize individuals who have a direct impact on the success of Tempe programs and services through generous financial support, and Arte's contributions to the community have been outstanding.

As a lifelong resident and former mayor of Tempe, I am incredibly proud of Arte's incredibly generous gift to the Tempe Community

Foundation, which will create positive and dramatic impacts now and for generations to come. Arte is also the founder of the Moreno Family Foundation, which is dedicated to supporting non-profit organizations in the area. Through the foundation, Arte has made significant contributions to many notable organizations, such as the American Heart Association, the Heard Museum, the Society of St. Vincent De Paul to name only a few. In addition to Arte's inspiring philanthropic efforts, he has become a towering figure in the world of sports as the owner of the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim baseball team, which conducts its spring training in Tempe, and which has won the American League Western Division championship in 2004, 2005, 2007, 2008, and 2009.

Through the kind gifts of Arte Moreno, Tempe is a more prosperous and successful city to benefit all of its residents.

Madam Speaker, I hope you will join me in recognizing Arte's remarkable benevolence and goodwill towards his community.

MERRILLVILLE ROTARY CLUB

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2009

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, Wednesday, November 11, 2009, marks the observance of Veterans Day, a day in which we, as a grateful nation, honor our veterans, who have pledged allegiance to their country through their service in the United States military. This day is set aside to recognize the boldness and bravery of those who have fought to uphold the standards of democracy and to defend the United States of America.

On Veterans Day, in cities and towns across America, proud citizens will pay tribute to our esteemed veterans with ceremonies, presentations, and programs to show their gratitude to those who have sacrificed so much. I would like to take this time to recognize one such event hosted by the Merrillville, Indiana, Rotary Club. On Veterans Day, the Merrillville branch of Rotary International will host an event at the Radisson Hotel at Star Plaza in Merrillville, celebrating the patriotism and pride of all veterans, while paying special tribute to 11 members of their club who served their country in the United States military and continue to serve their community as loyal Rotarians.

Founded in Chicago in 1905 as the Rotary Club of Chicago, Rotary International is the world's first service club. A global organization, Rotary now boasts more than 33,000 clubs in over 200 countries, with a membership of more than 1.2 million. At the core of Rotary International is a commitment to "providing humanitarian service, encouraging high ethical standards in all vocations, and helping to build goodwill and peace in the world." The Merrillville Rotary Club, through its commitment to improving educational opportunities for students, as well as the active role its members have taken in creating youth-oriented programs, is a true source of pride in Northwest Indiana, so it is with great pride that I join them in honoring eleven members who have selflessly served their country to preserve our freedom.

Please join me in recognizing: Dean Sangalis—Major General, United States Marine Corps, Robert Andree—Lieutenant Colonel, United States Army, Al Kuchar—Major, United States Army, Tony Fileff—First Lieutenant, United States Marine Corps, Juan Arroyo—Sergeant, United States Air Force, Ray Bryant—Sergeant, United States Army, Jerry Bernstein—Sergeant, United States Army, James Keough—First Lieutenant, United States Army Corps of Engineers, Gary Maxwell—Petty Officer First Class, United States Navy, Ray Snemis—Petty Officer Second Class, United States Navy, and Ed Dernule—Petty Officer Third Class, United States Navy Reserve.

The great sacrifice made by these men and all those who have served our country has resulted in the freedom and prosperity of our country and of countries around the world. I commend these men and all veterans who have served this country for their bravery, courage, and undying commitment to patriotism and democracy. We will forever be indebted to our veterans and their families for the sacrifices they made so that we can enjoy our freedom.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other colleagues join me in thanking the Merrillville Rotary Club for taking this opportunity to honor their veterans and in saluting these 11 men, and all veterans, who have fought for our great country.

HONORING THE 56TH BRIGADE (STRYKER) AND 2-112TH INFANTRY BATTALION (STRYKER)

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2009

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the troops of the Second of the 112th Infantry Battalion (Stryker), 56th Stryker Brigade, 28th Infantry Division, Pennsylvania Army National Guard that was deployed and participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The 56th Brigade (Stryker) and 2-112th Infantry Battalion (Stryker) is the only reserve component selected to be a Stryker unit. Headquartered out of Lewistown, Pennsylvania, and based at Camp Liberty in Iraq, the brave soldiers of this Stryker unit went into the hostile Abu Ghraib sector of Iraq with approximately 800 soldiers. Company A hails from the Huntingdon-Everett area, Company B is comprised of soldiers from Altoona, and the Tyrone-Bellefonte area makes up Company C. These brave American heroes were a part of the particularly successful Stryker Task Force Paxton that conducted lethal terrorist operations against Al Qaeda and the insurgent forces. The 2-112th Infantry Battalion (Stryker) accomplished the most active and successful time sensitive enemy targeting in the highly contested Baghdad region of Iraq while suppressing the instability.

Not only have these brave men and women put their lives on the line for the peace and prosperity of our nation, but they also contributed to the betterment of another. The 2-112th Infantry Battalion (Stryker) participated in operations which improved the human and physical infrastructure of Iraq to include its economic capacity and schools. Madam

Speaker I would like to extend to these brave soldiers my most sincere personal thanks for their honorable service to our nation. They have helped maintain our security through some of our country's most trying times, as we adapt to unconventional threats. I know that my words reflect the feelings of all citizens of our Nation when I say that these men and women are true American heroes.

NATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of designating a National Firefighters Memorial Day. The dedicated men and women who have lost their lives in the line of duty will never be forgotten and I express my deepest gratitude for the brave work they did protecting their communities.

Firefighters are the ones running into a burning building when everyone else is running out. The sacrifices they and their families make on a daily basis are as incredible as they are honorable. These men and women embody the spirit, commitment and sacrifice that define America.

The images of firefighters on September 11, 2001 left an indelible mark on all Americans. We saw firefighters entering flaming buildings, putting others' lives ahead of their own, and standing tall when they were needed most. Their courage continues to both haunt and inspire us.

But we must remember that everyday firefighters across the country are still performing heroic acts and saving lives. Since 2006, 313 firefighters have died on the job. And every year, another 40,000 are injured. Firefighters are constantly called on to put themselves in harm's way and those that are no longer with us deserve to be recognized and celebrated.

I want to thank Representative POE for bringing House Resolution 729 to the Floor and urge the rest of my colleagues to join me in designating a National Firefighters Memorial Day to commemorate the lives of our fallen firefighters.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF LARRY METZGER

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2009

Mr. TIBERI. Madam Speaker, with great pleasure I rise to recognize the distinguished career of the CEO of the Columbus Board of Realtors, Larry Metzger.

Since World War II, homeownership has been at the root of America's vitality and growth. Where homeownership flourishes neighborhoods prosper, as residents are more civic-minded, schools stronger and streets safer. The spread of ownership and opportunity helps give us a vital stake in the future of America and the chance to realize the great